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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

2           According to one embodiment, verifying a reticle may include patterning an inspected  
3 layer (102-2) according to a reticle pattern, depositing a contrast enhancing layer (104-0) on  
4 a patterned layer (102-2), and inspecting a reticle patterned formed in the inspected layer  
5 (102-2).

TOP SECRET